

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

IB2004/050569

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B20/12 G11B27/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 282 128 A (RICOH KK) 5 February 2003 (2003-02-05)	1-5, 9, 10
Y	abstract paragraph '0001! - paragraph '0012! paragraph '0019! - paragraph '0039! figures 1-3	6-8
Y	US 2002/136137 A1 (TSUKATANI SHIGEKI ET AL) 26 September 2002 (2002-09-26) abstract paragraph '0245! - paragraph '0283! figures 21, 22	6-8
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/09/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 12, 26 December 1996 (1996-12-26) -& JP 08 203211 A (RICOH CO. LTD), 9 August 1996 (1996-08-09) abstract -----	1,9,10
Y	EP 0 899 735 A (RICOH KK) 3 March 1999 (1999-03-03) the whole document -----	1,9,10
A	EP 0 878 799 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 18 November 1998 (1998-11-18) abstract column 4, line 11 - line 55 column 10, line 24 - column 11, line 4 figures 1,2,11,12 -----	1,9,10

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